UNDP

update

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Somalia appeal seeks funds for emergency relief and short-term rehabilitation

Somalia requires US$70.3 million for emergency relief and short-term rehabilitation activities during the first six months of 1995. A recent funding appeal cited education-related activities, the demobilization of combatants, and the provision of food aid to support reconstruction efforts as urgent needs. National and international NGOs will be significantly involved in the implementation of relief and rehabilitation activities covered under the appeal.

The mandate of the UN Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM II) will expire on 31 March 1995, but UN agencies have reaffirmed their commitment to continue humanitarian programmes whenever and wherever possible. According to the appeal, "failure to do so will result in a predictable new emergency which will, as in the past, exact a tragic toll in human lives and have severe consequences for stability in the subregion." This commitment was also emphasized at an earlier UN coordination meeting held last year in Nairobi under the joint auspices of UNDP and the Department for Humanitarian Affairs.

Included in the appeal is a request by UNDP for more than $6 million for three projects. It is seeking $1.9 million to rehabilitate the Afgoy well-field, the only water supply system in Mogadishu, and to maintain its pumping and distribution system. Approximately $3.1 million is sought to carry out activities related to the demobilization of about 55,000 militia including providing them with training, adult education, counselling and employment opportunities. UNDP is also seeking $1.1 million to assist in the development, with the International Labour Organisation, of small businesses through a revolving credit scheme to generate employment opportunities for unemployed youth, women who are heads of households and internally displaced persons.

The largest amount requested in this Appeal is $24.8 million sought by the World Food Programme. Its activities in the early part of 1995 will span many areas including the provision of food to school children, health and hospital workers and other vulnerable groups. It will provide food assistance to farmers and skills training and food-for-work programmes to encourage demobilization. The second largest amount is $14.6 million sought by UNICEF to carry out its activities.

Ruth Massey / UNDP

A recent funding appeal for Somalia cited education-related activities, the demobilization of combatants, and the provision of food aid to support reconstruction efforts as urgent needs.

In this issue:

Talks to resume on World Summit for Social Development — Hanoi meeting addresses HIV: a growing epidemic in Asia

UNDP operations to protect the ozone layer reach $80 million

UNDP is helping 31 developing countries to replace and phase out chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), halons and other ozone-depleting substances

(ODS). At the start of 1995, UNDP's cumulative work programme under the Montreal Protocol totalled $79.6 million, from a modest start of $1.1 million in 1991. Its main focus involves the formulation and implementation of technology transfer investment projects, strengthening national institutional capacities, and providing training and technical assistance.

The Montreal Protocol on the protection of the global ozone layer commits signatory countries to eliminate or replace ozone-depleting substances within a specified period. A Multilateral Fund was established under the Protocol to help developing countries meet the incremental costs of ODS elimination required by the Protocol. The Fund is managed by a 14-member Executive Committee comprising seven developed and seven developing countries. Approved activities are implemented through UNDP, UNEP, UNIDO and the World Bank.

UNDP's Montreal Protocol staff and internationally-known sector experts, working with national consultants and UNDP Country Offices, have been assisting governments and industry to design, implement and evaluate projects that phase out ozone-depleting substances in the aerosols, foams, solvents, refrigeration and fire-extinguishing sectors. These activities are part of UNDP's efforts to help restore the global ozone layer and prevent increased ultraviolet radiation, which affects human health and natural resource productivity.

To date, UNDP has completed nearly 70 projects under the Montreal Protocol and has disbursed $17.3 million of its allocated funds. In addition, UNDP has served as the lead agency in assisting governments to finalize 11 country programmes. The 19 institutional strengthening projects are developing national capacities for long-term programme sustainability to enable countries to meet the provisions of the Protocol.

UNDP's eight completed investment projects have eliminated an estimated 427 tonnes of ODS. The remaining 119 investment projects, by the end of 1996, will eliminate an additional 8,100 tonnes of ODS.

Talks to resume on World Summit for Social Development

After a year of inter-governmental talks, the stage is set for the last phase of preparations for the 1995 World Summit for Social Development. A new document, titled "Draft Outcome" of the Summit, was completed in late 1994 and provided to UN Member States and other participants in the Summit preparatory process.

The Social Summit, aimed at launching what the draft document calls "a global drive for social progress and development", will be held from 6-12 March in Copenhagen, Denmark. To date, more than 55 world leaders have informed the UN that they plan to attend.

Once the document is approved by the next Summit Preparatory Committee, which convenes this week, it will be submitted for the endorsement of world leaders when they gather in Denmark.

The text consists of a Draft Declaration, which explains why the Summit is vital, and a Draft Programme of Action, which sets out the steps necessary "to reduce and eliminate major sources of social distress", particularly poverty, unemployment and social exclusion.

The heart of the Draft Declaration consists of nine distinct "commitments" for steps needed to ensure social progress. World leaders would pledge to:

- "Create an enabling economic, political, and legal environment conducive to social development;
- Commit ourselves to the goal of eradicating poverty...;
- Commit ourselves to enabling all people to attain secure and sustainable livelihoods through freely chosen productive employment and work, and to maintain the goal of full employment;
- Commit ourselves to promoting social integration and the participation of all people by fostering societies that are stable, safe and just;
- Commit ourselves to achieving full equity and equality between women and men, and to recognizing and enhancing the participation of women in social progress and development;
- Commit ourselves to promoting the economic, social, and human resource development of Africa and the least developed countries;
- Commit ourselves to ensuring that structural adjustment programmes include social development goals of eradicating poverty, generating productive employment and enhancing social integration;
- Commit ourselves to increase significantly and utilize more efficiently the

resources assigned to social development in order to achieve the goals of the Summit through national action and international cooperation;

• Commit ourselves to a strengthened framework for international cooperation for social development, in a spirit of partnership, through the United Nations and other multilateral institutions."

"Far too many people, particularly women, increasingly face vulnerability, isolation, marginalization, violence and insecurity about the future — their own and their children's — as poverty, unemployment and social disintegration seem to become pervasive and mutually reinforcing features of the contemporary world," the draft document declares.

"We wish to launch at this Summit a new era of international cooperation between Governments and between peoples, based on a spirit of partnership that puts the needs and aspirations of people at the centre of our decisions."

Hanoi meeting addresses HIV — a growing epidemic in Asia

The more than 2.5 million estimated HIV infected individuals in South and South-East Asia could adversely affect economic growth and social development in the region. This and other related issues were discussed at a Consultative Group Meeting of the UNDP Regional Project on HIV and Development that was held last month in Hanoi, Viet Nam. Hanoi was selected as the venue because of the government's interest in taking effective steps to prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS in the country.

UNDP's regional project in the area is helping to create a better understanding of the causes and consequences of the HIV epidemic and its current and projected impact on communities and individuals. Some of the priorities of the programme include promoting policy dialogue, stimulating private sector initiatives for AIDS awareness at the workplace, and assessing the economic impact of the pandemic.

Mr. Roy Morey, UNDP Resident Representative and UN Resident Coordinator in Viet Nam said that the country is now launching a new HIV prevention and management programme. Its aim is to deal with the problem of HIV from a broad developmental perspective.

Referring to the evolving nature of the HIV/AIDS pandemic, WHO's Dr. Michael Merson, stated that by the year 2000 the problem will be as serious in Asia as it is in Africa. The efforts being made by the Asian countries need to be intensified.

Ms. Elizabeth Reid, Director of the HIV and Development Programme at UNDP, underlined the need to promote an environment that will support HIV-related issues and give them the priority they deserve. She said that those affected directly by HIV/AIDS should be given an important role in combating the epidemic.

The consultative group meeting was attended by representatives of WHO, other UN agencies, the World Bank and UNDP Resident Representatives from several Asian countries.

Approved projects

(all projects subject to modification; sums quoted in US dollars)

Ghana — UNDP Support to the National Capacity Development and Utilization Programme — The Government of Ghana has identified non-traditional exports, tourism and construction as important components for growth during the country's second decade of reform. UNDP assistance is specifically directed towards strengthening national capacity to collect, analyze and disseminate environmentally-sound technologies. UNDP will also assist in promoting income-generating employment opportunities and training entrepreneurs in micro, small and medium scale enterprises.

UNDP contribution: $5,000,000. Co-financing ODA: $800,000. USAID: $4 million. Swiss Government: $250,000. Funds will be used for equipment, subcontracts, and to mobilize expertise for capacity development. The lead government authority is the Ministry of Finance. (GHA/93/004)

Nepal — Rural Roads — Through this initiative, a series of bridges, all-weather feeder roads and highways will be rehabilitated or constructed. The Department of Roads will be strengthened in the areas of project management, contract administration and road maintenance. Support will also be provided to local private construction industries.

UNCDF budget: $5,407,363. Government budget: $624,900, UNDP budget: $673,343. Funds will be provided for civil works contracts, advisors and equipment. Executed by the Ministry of Transport and Communications. (NEP/89/CO3)

Sao Tome and Principe — Rural Community Development of Agua Ize — This programme will assist in the creation of farmers' associations which will undertake self-sustaining economic activities. Support will be provided to community self-help initiatives geared toward crop marketing and diversification. In addition, feeder roads, primary schools, health-care facilities and community housing centres will be rehabilitated through labour-intensive public works.

UN Capital Development Fund contribution: $2,313,641. UNDP contribution: $878,000. Government contribution: $425,000. Funds will be used for subcontracts, rural credit operations, training, agricultural specialists, engineers, and equipment. Executed by FAO, ILO and the UN Office for Project Services. Implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development. (STP/92/CO1)

Yemen — Emergency Assistance for the Rehabilitation of Water Supply and Sanitation Systems in Conflict-Affected Regions of the Southern Governorates — This programme will rehabilitate water-supply systems and sanitation facilities in areas which were either damaged in armed conflict or indirectly affected by the lack of maintenance.

Government cost-sharing: $600,000. Third party cost-sharing (identified): $625,000. Third party cost-sharing (unidentified): $2,738,500. Funds will be used for equipment, subcontracts and personnel. Executed by the United Nations Department for Development Support and Management Services. Implemented by the Ministry of Electricity and Water and the Ministry of Housing and Urban Planning. (YEM/94/011)

Editor: Cherie Hart
Tel: (212) 906 5304 · Fax: (212) 906 5364

For change of address in all regions except Europe, contact:
Alison Walton in New York
Tel: (212) 906 5322 · Fax: (212) 906 5364

For change of European addresses, contact:
Marcel Renard in Geneva, Switzerland
Tel: (41 22) 979 9549 · Fax: (41 22) 979 9006

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United Nations Development Programme
One United Nations Plaza
New York, NY 10017

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Vol. 8, no. 2, 30 January 1995

Round Table raises $587 million for Rwanda

UNDP helped to organize a Round Table Conference for Rwanda on 18 January, which resulted in pledges of US$587 million to aid in rehabilitating that country in 1995 and 1996. Of that amount, $520 million will be used in the Programme of National Reconciliation and Socio-Economic Rehabilitation and Recovery. The balance will be used for additional humanitarian and rehabilitation activities.

UN/HCR

Refugees crossing Akanyaru River which forms the border between Rwanda and Burundi.

The fund-raising conference, which took place in Geneva, was opened by UNDP Administrator James Gustave Speth. The national recovery plan, with an original goal of $764 million, was presented by Rwanda Prime Minister Faustin Twagiramungu.

The programme put forward by the Rwandan government aims to:

- Restore the country's economic framework, with balance of payments assistance for rebuilding fuel stocks, commercial imports, and medical and food aid supplies.
- Reorganize administrative capabilities in the public sector, rehabilitate the judicial.
- Resettle and reintegrate refugees and displaced persons.
- Revive agricultural, industrial, trade, and mining production.
- Rehabilitate the social sectors.

The largest donor was the European Union, which pledged $127 million, while the World Bank pledged $75 million. Among the leading bilateral country donors, Germany pledged $80 million, the United States $59.8 million, Belgium $35 million, Canada $32.2 million and the Netherlands, $31.5 million.

The United Nations Department of Humanitarian Affairs conducted another appeal on 19 January for $710 million in additional funds for emergency assistance and first-stage recovery in Rwanda and neighbouring countries.

In this issue:

Highlights of the UNDP/UNFPA Executive Board — UNDP-supported Human Rights Commissioner wins "Man of the Year" in the Russian Federation — Euronews broadcasts UNDP television series, AZIMUTHS — Turkey upgrades its public health system

UN Volunteer Programme to Relocate to Bonn

UNDP's Executive Board formally endorsed the proposal to move the headquarters of the UN Volunteer Programme (UNV) from Geneva to Bonn. The decision, taken during the Board's first regular session in New York on 10-13 January, follows more than a year of intense negotiations and discussions which began when UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali first proposed the idea in 1993.

Dr. Brenda Gael McSweeney, Executive Coordinator of the UNV, welcomed the decision, and thanked the German government for its commitment to ensure that "UNV continue to serve the developing world as successfully from Bonn as it has done from Geneva." Germany is providing headquarters premises to UNV rent-free, and will double the size of its contribution to the organisation, from DM 1.7m to DM 3.4m. Additionally, Germany will meet the financial costs of all aspects of the move for the programme and staff.

Bonn also provides an important opportunity for UNV, which Dr. McSweeney said can be summed up in one word — "synergies". The European Forum on Development Service is based in Bonn, as is

Highlights of the Executive Board of UNDP and the United Nations Population Fund, 10-18 January

• The Executive Board endorsed the proposal of the Secretary-General to accept the offer of the Government of Germany to relocate the headquarters of the United Nations Volunteers to Bonn from mid-1996 onwards. (see cover story)

• The Executive Board concluded two years of deliberations on the status and role of the Office for Project Services with the approval of Financial Regulations governing the activities of the United Nations Office for Project Services. UNOPS was established as of 1 January 1995 as a separate and identifiable entity. UNOPS will report to the Executive Board and to the Secretary-General through a newly-created UNOPS Management Coordination Committee comprised of the heads of UNDP, the UN Department of Administration and Management, and the UN Department for Development Support and Management Services. It is a fully self-financing entity continuing the OPS tradition of providing high-quality, timely and cost-effective development services for the successful implementation of projects undertaken by United Nations Member States. While UNOPS will continue to support the development activities of UNDP, it will also now be able to make its services available to other organizations of the UN system.

• On an exceptional and one-time basis, the Executive Board decided to restore the Indicative Planning Figure (IPF) for Haiti to its original level of $37.7 million, established at the beginning of the Fifth Programme Cycle (1992-1996). Indicative Planning Figures — based on a formula agreed to by UNDP's Governing Council (predecessor to the Executive Board) — are used to decide how to share core resources among programme countries. UNDP's programme commitments, or IPFs, were revised downward in 1994 due to a decline in UNDP's core resources.

Owing to the nature and urgency of actions to be taken in Haiti, the country represents a special case for UNDP regarding UNDP's funding and coordination role within the overall United Nations operational activities for development. For UNDP to perform effectively in the country, it is necessary to ensure that a sufficient amount of UNDP resources are available.
Aside from restoring the IPF to its original level, the Executive Board requested the Administrator "to work on the successor arrangements to the fifth programming cycle, to make proposals on how to enhance the capacity of UNDP to respond financially to exceptional and emergency situations."

• The UN Sudano-Sahelian Office (UNSO) will spearhead UNDP's desertification work on desertification control and drought prevention and will support the recently signed convention to combat desertification. UNSO is being reorganized so that its experience can benefit other affected countries outside of the Sudano-Sahelian region. The Executive Board supported the UNDP Administrator's initiatives "to promote measures taken by UNDP in support of the implementation of the International Convention to Combat Desertification in countries experiencing serious drought and desertification, particularly in Africa." It encouraged the Administrator, in light of the convention on desertification, to take the steps necessary to change the name of the UN Sudano-Sahelian Office, while keeping its acronym.

• The Executive Board requested the Administrator of UNDP and the Executive Director of the UN Population Fund to consider ways of strengthening their cooperation in matters relating to the functioning of the Executive Board.

• The Executive Board elected Mr. Zbigniew Maria Wlosowicz (Poland) as its President for 1995. The Board's second regular session will be on 3-7 April. Its annual session will take place on 5-16 June. Its third regular session will be on 28 August-1 September. All of these sessions will be held in New York.

Continued from page 1

the German Senior Expert Service. Bonn University, along with Aachen and Cologne universities, are together launching a North/South Development Research Centre. There is also a very large and active NGO community throughout Germany. "All these factors," Dr McSweeney said, "hold out the promise for positive synergies" for UNV.

There are some 4,000 UN Volunteers, representing 121 nationalities, serving in 125 countries. They provide assistance and training in such areas as health and agriculture at the grassroots level, and administer humanitarian aid in war-torn areas. UNVs also provide important help to the UN in organising and monitoring elections, in countries like Cambodia, Mozambique and South Africa. Some 100 UNV personnel will be directly effected by the move in mid-1996.

Speaking at the Executive Board session, UNDP Administrator James Gustave Speth thanked Switzerland for the role it had played in bringing UNV to this point, praising the "way and manner that the whole affair had been handled by the Swiss", and adding that in no way did he anticipate a separation of relationships. A UNV humanitar-

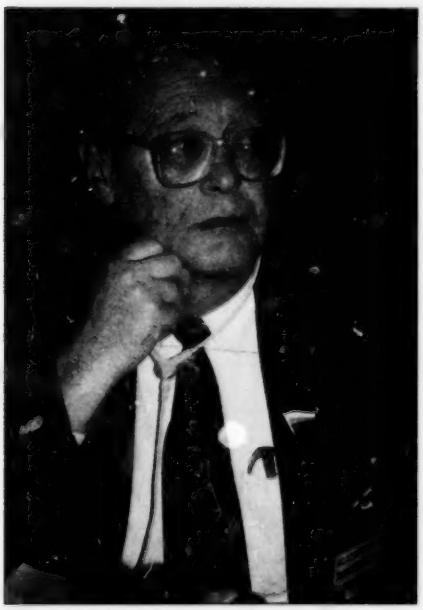
ian relief unit, in fact, will stay on in Geneva.

Mr. Speth said that he hoped that this decision would "redound to the benefit of the UNV programme, and that Germany would lead the donor effort to raise UNV resources".

UNDP-supported Human Rights Commissioner wins "Man of the Year" in the Russian Federation

The Commissioner for Human Rights of the Russian Federation, whose office is being established through support from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), was named "Man of the Year for 1994" in that country. Sergei Kovalev, a veteran human rights campaigner, was voted Man of the Year in a public opinion survey conducted throughout the Russian Federation by a group called the Public Opinion Foundation. In a separate development, several deputies in the State Duma urged that Mr. Kovalev be nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize.

Sergei Kovalev is a veteran human rights campaigner in the Russian Federation.



UNDP support for the Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights is part of a larger regional programme to strengthen democracy, governance and participation in Central and Eastern Europe and the CIS. The principal objective of this programme is to develop, with the governments of the region and their bilateral and multilateral partners, a way to carry out international cooperation in the areas of democracy, governance and citizen participation.

To this end, UNDP is currently organizing a task force, comprised of representatives of Central and Eastern Europe and the CIS and their major bilateral and multilateral foreign partners in this field. The first meeting of the task force, which took place on 18 January in Geneva, included 80 participants from 40 countries and organizations. The task force will support development of democratic practices, sound governance and broad citizens' participation in public affairs at regional and national levels.

Another component of UNDP's democracy, governance and participation programme will strengthen democratic institutions and practices. UNDP is helping to establish and support ombudsman institutions such as the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the National Institute of Human Rights, and auditing authorities. UNDP is assessing capacity-building and technical needs in these areas, and helping to development management, human resources and information systems. So far, UNDP has developed, with the European Council and the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, a programme to promote and protect human rights in Latvia. A similar initiative has begun in Belarus, Bulgaria, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Russia, and Ukraine and in cooperation with the United Nations Center for Human Rights.

To date, the US Agency for International Development and the Governments of the Netherlands and Sweden have provided financial support to UNDP for this programme on democracy, governance and participation in Eastern Europe and the CIS countries.

Euronews broadcasts UNDP television series, AZIMUTHS

AZIMUTHS, the TV documentary series produced by UNDP's European office, has signed an agreement with EURONEWS calling for the broadcast of one six-to-ten-minute AZIMUTHS video eport each week during 1995.

The broadcasts, pegged to EURONEWS' coverage of the UN's 50th Anniversary, are being transmitted seven times a day simultaneously in six languages: Arabic, English, French, German, Italian and Spanish. The German and Italian versions will be produced by EURONEWS itself under the terms of the co-production agreement.

EURONEWS reaches more than 80 million households, with over 200 million occupants, in Europe and North Africa.

The agreement with EURONEWS brings to seven the number of international channels currently broadcasting AZIMUTHS throughout Europe. The other six that carry it are TV5, NBC SUPER CHANNEL, DISCOVERY CHANNEL, DOCUMANIA, HISPASAT and BBC WORLD SERVICE TV.

Broadcasts are also carried by IBERIA on European flights and will soon be shown on the AIR FRANCE in-flight service. Worldwide, AZIMUTHS is seen in 180 countries through agreements with over 80 broadcasters.

READEX
FICHE

Turkey upgrades its public health system

The Government of Turkey extended its agreement with the UN Office for Project Services to carry out the country's first health project aimed at upgrading the public health system in seven provinces. The extension of the programme, which began more than three years ago, will enable further support to a major reform effort in Turkey designed to enhance efficiency and effectiveness of health care delivery and financing. It will also ensure the continuation of institution-building efforts.

The programme consists of three main components. The first element will involve health reform in a selected pilot region. Within the chosen territory, a Regional Health Administration will be created and a general health insurance system will be launched. Reforming the delivery of service will include decentralizing hospital administration and deploying a new corps of family physicians. The second initiative in the pilot region will include extending activities to Eastern Anatolia to improve that area's access to quality health care.

The third main component will involve institutional development, focusing on reorganizing the Ministry of Health and developing health information systems. The Ministry of Health has already completed the design of its reform programme. The next step will be to translate the general goals into specific objectives, operational programmes and cost estimates. Technical assistance will now be provided to carry out a study on the general health insurance system, to design an information system for the insurance system, to develop a massive training programme for family physicians, to restructure service delivery at the primary health care level, and to conduct an in-depth hospital management study.

Editor: Cherie Hart
Tel: (212) 906 5304 · Fax: (212) 906 5364

For change of address in all regions except Europe, contact:
Alison Walton in New York
Tel: (212) 906 5322 · Fax: (212) 906 5364

For change of European addresses, contact:
Marcel Renard in Geneva, Switzerland
Tel: (41 22) 979 9549 · Fax: (41 22) 979 9006

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One United Nations Plaza
New York, NY 10017

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